

TROPICAL STORM HARRY (21W)

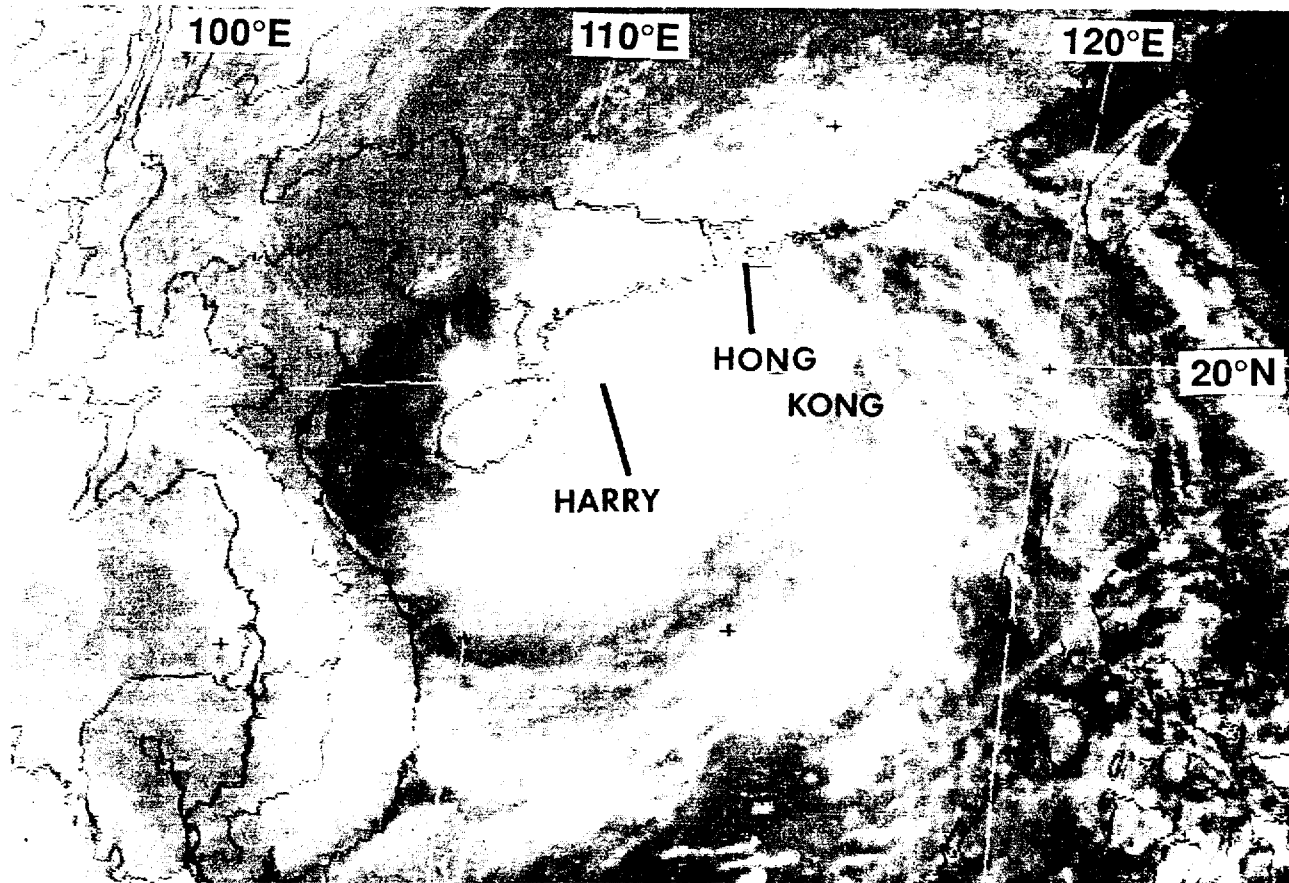


Figure 3-21-1 Harry near its peak intensity of 60 kt (31 m/sec) when located about 210 nm (390 km) southwest of Hong Kong (270231Z August visible GMS imagery).

As Typhoon Fred approached the southwestern Ryukyu Islands of Japan on 20 August, convection began to reappear in the monsoon trough about 250 nm (463 km) southwest of Guam. A disturbance was mentioned that afternoon on the 200600Z August Significant Tropical Weather Advisory. For five days, the disturbance moved to the west-northwest with very little intensification. After it crossed the northern part of Luzon, a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert was issued at 250000Z followed by the first warning on Tropical Depression 21W at 251200Z. By 251800Z, the system had reached tropical storm intensity. During the next 36 hours, Harry intensified at a rate of 5 kt (2.6 m/sec) per 6 hours while moving west-northwestward at 8-10 kt (15-19 km/hr). On the morning of 27 August, Harry passed 150 nm (278 km) south of Hong Kong where 79 km/hr (43 kt) 10-minute averaged sustained winds were recorded at Waglan Island at 270145Z. A peak gust of 104 km/hr (56 kt) was recorded at 270310Z at the same site. Less than three hours later, Harry reached its peak intensity of 60 kt (31 m/sec) (Figure 3-21-1), six hours before crossing the southern portion of the Luichou Peninsula of China. Harry slowly weakened as it crossed the Gulf of Tonkin, and went ashore at 281500Z just east of Haiphong, Vietnam, with 50 kt (26 m/sec) winds. The final warning was issued at 290000Z after Harry's weakened circulation had moved inland near Hanoi.